

June

Be Sure to **LOOK** for those Buttons and
roll-over effects

Magic Lantern Society **NEWS**



NOTE

Many articles are not the complete information in this E-Pub. Continued information is available on line and the links are here to help navigate to those sites.

**NOTE
CHANGE**



15th International Convention

**Click Here for Information on
call for Presentations**

Welcome New Members

Members: Please make a note and add this entry to your 2011 Directory

Blakley, Robert

PO Box 17
Sunapee, NH 03782-0174
(603) 504-2494
robertblakley@gmail.com
Interests: Slides: Restoration, cataloging, organizing. Local historical society has given a show and plans another.

Sofman, Andrew

11155 SW 40th St
Davie, FL 33328-2126
(954) 236-6642
Student, Film-Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale
andrew.sofman@gmail.com
Interests: Lanterns, Slides, Vintage Cinema

2011 Directory

The 2011 Directory was mailed May 2, 2011 to all members of record as of April 1, 2011. If you have not received your copy, please contact the Ron Easterday at secretary-treasurer@magiclanternsociety.org

Members: Please make a note of the following updates/corrections to your 2011 Directory.

2011 Directory Corrections

Waelde, Helmut

Correct Mailing Address is as follows:
Hegelstr. 28
D-40789 Monheim am Rhein
Germany

2011 Directory Updates

Ney, Ross

has relocated. New mailing address is:
2866 Celtic Lane
Baldwinsville, NY 13027-9213

Welcome Returning Members

McVicar, Kenneth

24 Clearwater Road
Winchester, MA 01890-4011
(781) 729-3882
kennethmcvicar@earthlink.net
Interests: Lanterns; Slides.

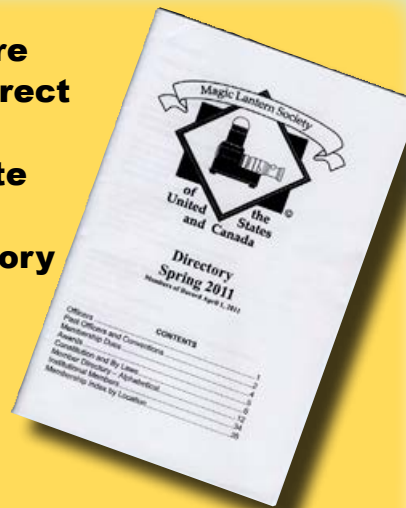
Rhodes, Gary

Film Studies - The Queens University
Belfast Northern Ireland BT7 1NN United Kingdom
Email Address: gdrhodes@gmail.com
Interests: Slides: Irish-themed late 19th century and Irish-themed song slides early 20th century.

Sgammato, Joe

7 Blackberry Lane
Norwalk, CT 06580-1518
(203) 847-6449
College English/Film Teacher
jsgammato@att.net
Interests: Lanterns, Slides, Literature, Kinetic Devices, Vintage Cinema.

**Be Sure
to Correct
and
Up-date
Your
Directory**



Northeastern Group

Special Meeting

The Northeastern Group of the Magic Lantern Society of the United States and Canada will meet **Saturday, June 25** from **10AM-5PM** at the **Dodd Research Center at the University of Connecticut in Storrs, Connecticut.**

NOTE CHANGE

The meeting will coincide with the opening of the Dodd Center curated by Terry Borton, "Magic Lantern Night" in 19th Century. The meeting of the Northeastern group of the Magic Lantern Society previously announced for Saturday, June 25 will take place on **Sunday, June 26 from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM at the Dodd Research Center at the University of Connecticut.** A centerpiece of the meeting will be an exhibit on magic lanterns in the Dodd Center. Unfortunately, there was some confusion over scheduling on the part of the Dodd Center staff, and another event was scheduled for Saturday. Lunch will be provided at no charge. Members in the Northeast are encouraged to attend. Please notify Terry Borton if you plan to attend.

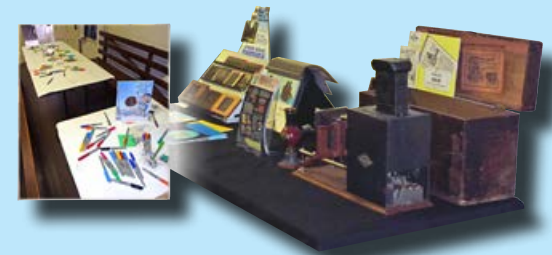
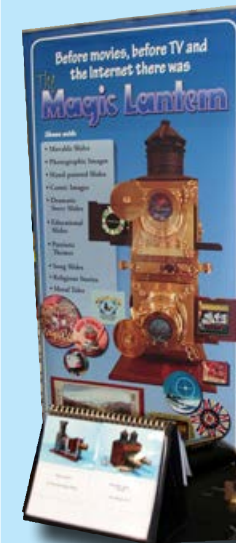
We will have a small conference room available for the meeting, equipped with a screen to allow lantern slides to be shown. Please bring an interesting new item to show or a set of slides to project. Terry Borton will have his biennial lantern available for slide showing. The meeting is very informal. We will have lunch. In the afternoon, there will be a public reception for refreshments provided by the Magic Lantern Society. The exhibit-opening will be held, especially in the afternoon. Refreshments and will be provided, while lantern experts available to answer questions. The exhibit with members of the public. Please mark your calendars and try to attend this special meeting. If you plan to attend, contact **Terry Borton (tborton@magiclanternshows.com).** Directions will be sent to those planning to attend the meeting.

Thomas J. Dodd Research Center



We have been busy promoting the lantern and up-coming convention in Tacoma

Display Table at Camera Show, Kent, WA



Display, slide showing and slide coloring for young slide colorists at Fort Steilacoom

Some unusual magic lantern slides at Yale University

Yale University recently released thousands of digital images of items in university collections for free use on Yale Digital Commons (<http://discover.odai.yale.edu/ydc/>). Among the items are hundreds of magic lantern slides, although not all are well photographed. Many of these are technical scientific slides, slides used in art history classes, etc. However, there are some unusual slides hidden away in the collections of the Peabody Museum of Natural History. Some are hand-painted and some photographic, but they appear to be very early, possibly from the 1850s. The slides are framed in crude wooden frames, and are unusual in having the pictures oriented vertically in the frames. However, there is no clear information about dates or the origin of these slides in the Yale catalog. Here are some examples.



Inquiry From The Web Site

From: Robert Blakley

Sent: Monday, May 23, 2011 8:26 AM

To: secretary-treasurer@magiclanternsociety.org
Subject: Membership & stuff

Ron,

Thanks for your note, I look forward to receiving any, and all, stuff about the Society.

For background, I am a retired guy, who has volunteered for our local (Sunapee, NH) Historical Society to clean, digitally photograph, and organize a collection of over 2,000 Magic Lantern slides they received a few year ago. These slides were apparently kept in a storage barn, and some of them are filthy. Most have labels that are crumbling, or about to. I agreed to work with another fellow, who put in a lot of time listing what we had, but he died suddenly a month ago, and I am now the "go to guy" for info on our slides. The work is slow.

I got onto your Society through the web, and have emailed with Debbie Borton, seeking help with a problem she said you might be of assistance on.

We have 60+ U.S. Civil War slides, of which maybe a dozen have lost their labels. I have been successful in identifying all but two of this series, and Debbie mentioned you were knowledgeable on Civil War Slides. So... I have attached (I hope) a copy of each of the two unknowns. The first, with a horseman in a town (city?) square, showing troops on review in the rear, has no label, but it has writing on one edge, in long hand, in ink, She.... I assume this refers to Sherman, although it could be Sheridan. And I'm guessing that if it's Sherman it has to do with his March To The Sea. I've gone through the NY Public Library digital collection and can't find this one, and have rattled around in numerous web sites for Civil War art, but so far no luck. I wonder as to your thoughts.

The second one is a battle scene, but again I come up dry with research. Again, I assume Civil War,

but I cannot find anything that identifies the flag shown in the pix. So, on that one also, any help would be appreciated.

Also, is there a forum, or a posting board, within the Society? I ask because I'm cleaning our slides using plain old Windex, and our President has raised questions as to whether that was smart, fearing some might leak between the glass plates. I wonder if anyone else has experience in cleaning these.

At your convenience, and thanks in advance.

Bob Blakley

robertblakley@gmail.com

P.O. Box 174, Sunapee, NH 03782

From: Ron Easterday

Hi Bob – thanks for your info and questions.

I'll try to address your questions in reverse order -

There is no discussion forum per se, but if ok with you I will forward your email on for inclusion in the June email publication that goes to all members, and you may well get some responses there. We like to publish member questions in it.

As to slide cleaning – we recommend starting with the least harmful (water) and only going to a cleaner with a solvent if absolutely necessary. Water with a few drops of mild dishwashing soap is a in-between step. It is amazing how much plain water will take off. That being said, it is also surprising how much dirt can be on slides and not affect projection very much. So unless they are starting to get mold or mildew, you might want to leave them as is. Remember the first rule of preservation, do no harm. Unfortunately, I have broken that one a few times in ill-advised attempts!

It is correct that most slide images, either painted, printed, or photographic, dissolve in water. So getting water between the glass can be very devastating. A q-tip for cleaning the surface is recommended to limit the moisture on the surface. On glass slides, the binding tape adhesive is also water soluble, so you can release the binding if not

careful. If binding tape is missing, the matt-black non-acid photo masking tape is a good substitute if you need to re-bind a slide. Let me know if you are not familiar with it. There are sources for paper, gummed back binding strips if you want to be more authentic. I would not take a slide apart, wood mount or glass, unless the cover glass is broken and you plan to replace it, or the image is so badly damaged that something must be done. Often the glass does not separate cleanly, and makes things worse. Some of us have found if an image has been damaged, it is far better to scan, digitally repair the image, and make a reproduction slide to project. It takes a lot of skill and practice to touch up a actual side. If you find yourself in that position, there are a few members that have worked on that.

It looks like the civil war images you sent are wood mounts? Are the labels on the others any clue to a series? I have one list of GAR slides in a catalog, others may have other catalog lists that might be a clue. It does look like Sherman....? I have a number of civil war slides that I have researched and do shows with, but unfortunately I am not a researcher of civil war images and do not recognize the two you sent. I did send your scans on to a friend of mine who is a civil war re-enactor. He might have an idea or know someone who would recognize the flag. Or given where you live, one of the civil war re-enactment groups might be of help. Often these slides were the same images as paintings or other illustrations that someone might recognize.

If you need any help or suggestions on scanning and/or touching up side scans electronically, email or call Larry Cederblom. He is very helpful and knowable in that area. Larry is a semi-retired graphic designer who has scanned, touched up, and makes reproduction slides. All of the Society graphic images are his work. designerlc@comcast.net

Good luck with your project – sounds like a great opportunity, but a lot of work! Let me know if you have more questions.

best regards, Ron

Magic Lantern Society of the United States and Canada
www.magiclanternsociety.org

15th International Convention

June 22-24, 2012

Best Western Tacoma Dome Hotel, Tacoma, Washington



Call for Presentation Proposals

Invitation: The Magic Lantern Society of the United States and Canada invites members and non-members alike to submit proposals for presentations pertaining to the Magic Lantern and related topics for its 15th International Convention. Proposals from researchers, students, hobbyists, and entertainers are all welcome.

Subject Matter: Typical presentation topics include: Original research regarding magic lanterns, slides, showman, showmanship, show re-enactments, newly created shows, and similar topics regarding the magic lantern.

Presentations will be especially welcome that address the theme of the convention: *Projecting the Past into the Future*.

Presentations are encouraged that further the stated Purposes of the Society

1. To establish an organization of persons and entities interested in the collection, possession, conservation, restoration, and maintenance of Magic Lanterns, Lantern Slides and related material.
2. To encourage member persons and entities to share their knowledge of the Magic Lantern, Lantern Slides and related material with any interested person or entities.
3. To coordinate research, catalogue material and disseminate all information about the history, uses and development of the Magic Lantern and Lantern Slides.
4. To promote exhibition and shows of Magic Lantern equipment, Lantern Slides and the known methods of use in as historically accurate a manner as possible.

Source Material: Presenters are encouraged to use original source material, i.e. original lantern slides projected using a magic lantern, in a manner appropriate to the historical nature of the slides. If reproductions or copies of slides are used, that should be clearly stated.

The Society understands the difficulties and hazards of traveling with original source materials over long distances. If a digital projection method is proposed, presenters are strongly encouraged to incorporate a few original slides into their presentation to illustrate original format, quality, colors, and special effects, as compared to the digital images.

Time Length: Presentations are typically scheduled for 20-30 minutes each, with shorter and longer presentations considered based on the overall convention schedule and the subject matter proposed.

Call for Presentations for the June 2012 Convention in Tacoma, WA

Be sure to follow future E-pubs for information and highlights of the up-coming convention in Tacoma. We will keep you up-to-date of all the attractions and presentations.

Plans are well underway. There is a convention planning meeting Sunday, June 5th at the Halls. 1 PM.

continued next page

Magic Lantern Society of the United States and Canada
www.magiclanternsociety.org

15th International Convention

June 22-24, 2012

Best Western Tacoma Dome Hotel, Tacoma, Washington



Call for Presentation Proposals

Proposal Requirements:

Submit a brief description of the proposed program, one page maximum.

Complete and submit the attached Presentation Checklist with as much information as is known at this time. Check the "Preliminary" box at the top of the form.

Provide two to four images, digital preferred via email, from your presentation for use by the Society for convention publicity.

Due Date for Proposals: Proposals must be received no later than: day/month/year

Submit Proposals To:

US Mail: Robert Hall, 3321 114th St. NW, Gig Harbor WA, USA 98332-8912

Email: rbtldhall@aol.com

Ownership: Presentation content and research content remain the property of the Presenter.

The Society welcomes submittals of research articles generated for this convention or otherwise for consideration to publish in the Magic Lantern Gazette. Please contact the Gazette editor, Kentwood Wells, for more information regarding publishing opportunities.

Audience: The audience is primarily members of the Society, and typical numbers range from between 50-60 at presentations. The public and guests are invited.

Expenses: The Society is a 100% volunteer organization; regrettably no stipends or honorariums are available for Presenters. Presenters are responsible for their personal costs of research, presentation preparation, handouts, travel, lodging, and food.

Convention Admittance/Convention Registration:

Presenters are encouraged to register and join us for all the Convention events. You do not have to be a Society member to attend the Convention.

Presenters who do not register for the convention are welcome to attend all the daytime presentations on the day of their presentation as a guest of the Society.

Presenters who do not register for the Convention and wish to attend additional day(s) and/or evening events are requested to purchase a day pass(s) and/or tickets as necessary. Contact the Convention Committee for further information on events and costs.

Call for Presentations page 2

Presentation Checklist

A stack of three "Presentation Checklist" forms. The top form is clearly visible and contains the following fields: "Date:", "Name of Presenter:", "Address:", "Phone (Best one contact number, home, office, or cell):", "Email:", "Title of Presentation:", "Description:", "Total Number of Presentations in your group, including lecturers, narrators, residents, and assistants:", "Current Member of the Society? Yes No", "Type of Presentation (optional) - not including questionnaires or web:", "Subject:", "Presentation:", "Page 1 of 4". The forms are slightly offset to show multiple copies.

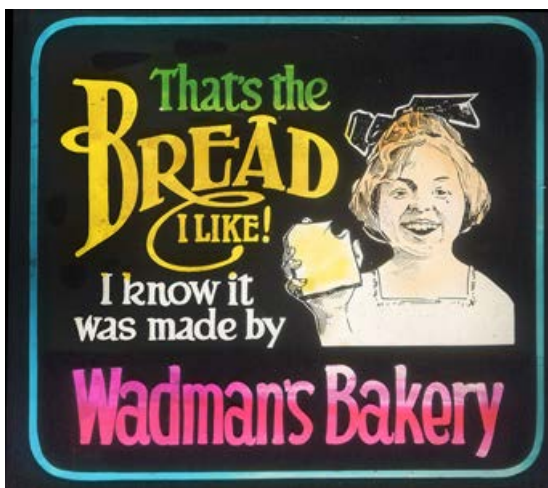
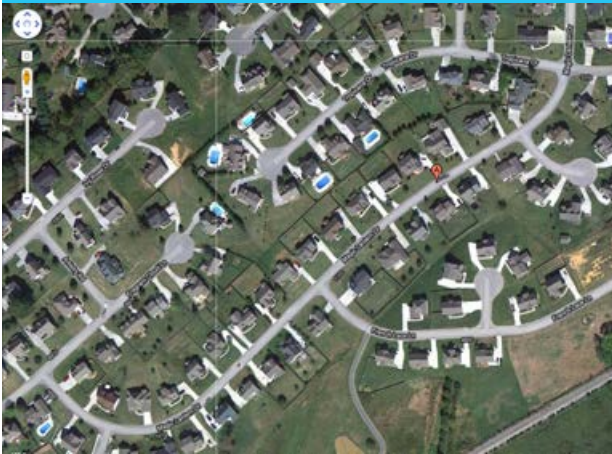
**To get a copy of the call
for presentations and the
Presentation Checklist**

[Click Here](#)

Not All are Projectors

Who would have known this? If you go to Google Maps and type or cut and paste in this street, you will find there is an actual Magic Lantern Drive in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Magic Lantern Dr, Knoxville, TN 37918

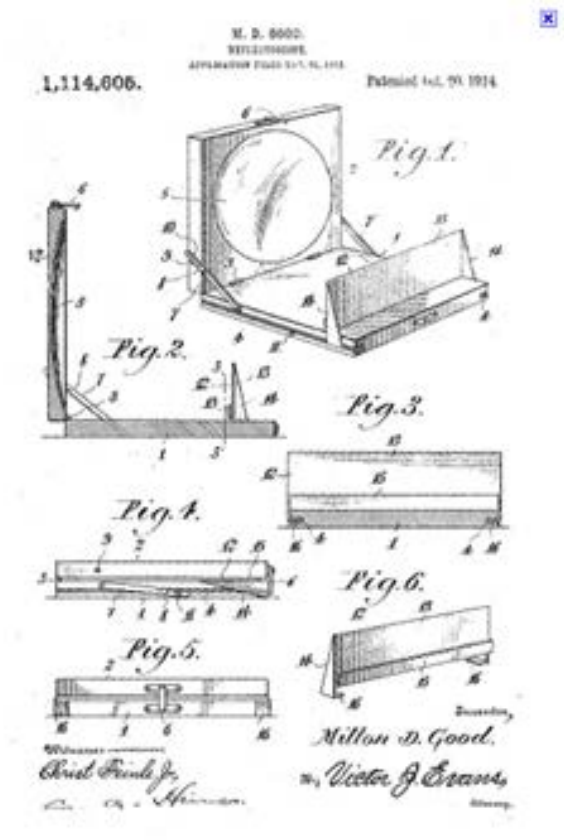


Shomescope Postcard Viewer

From Tom Rall

Perhaps you noticed the Shomescope that popped up this past week on ebay which I was fortunate enough to purchase. Mine didn't look as fancy as this one in the video. But certainly an interesting optical device, which I'd never seen before. Perhaps I'll try to bring it to the convention!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m9TcQnZkZ9Y>



A rare and delightful optical toy called the Shomescope (pronounced "show me scope"). This simple device enhances the viewing of photographs and postcards by giving a realistic illusion of 3-D in its curved mirror. The image to be viewed is put into one of three slots to gauge the best effect. The device was patented in 1914 and manufactured in Kansas City, MO

It consists of a hinged wooden case with metal fittings and clasp, and an inset concave mirror in the top half

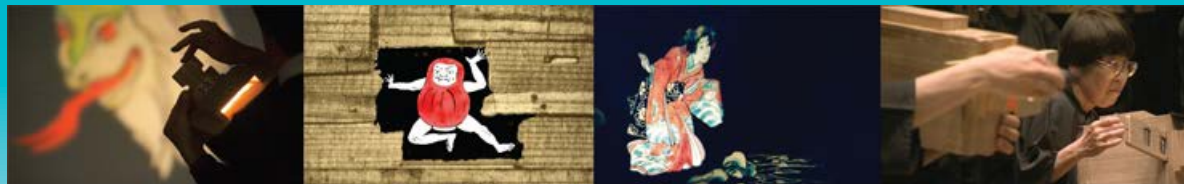
From Artemis Willis

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As many of you already know, in April The Minwa-za Company of Tokyo was in residency for a week at the University of Chicago April 17-24. I am attaching the program notes for your perusal. For those of you interested in seeing documentation of their spectacular performances in Rockefeller Memorial Chapel and their workshop/matinee at International House, the files have been recently uploaded on Youtube:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wCUBhddiU9w>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LZvMHYWkjwI>



Last month we looked at ways to research the lantern using word occurrence with the use of a data base and Google scanned books.

Here is an article from *The Optical Magic Lantern Journal and Photographic Enlarger*, June 1889, that also reviewed names by which the lantern is known.

Various Names by which the Lantern is Known.

IT is scarcely saying too much when we assert that not only has each country its own variety of designation for the lantern, but that each maker has adopted special titles by which his own productions are sought to be made known.

Starting with the good old-fashioned name by which this instrument has been so long known we have the MAGIC LANTERN, upon which an improvement has been sought to be made, and a higher and more scientific tone given by the term OPTICAL LANTERN. Again we have the PROJECTING LANTERN, the meaning of which is obvious. Then the

STEREOPTICON or DISSOLVING LANTERN (to see solid).

PHANTASMAGORIA (ghost-like).

SCIOPTICON (shadow).

TRIPLEXICON (having three wicks).

DIOPTRIC (refraction).

BINOPTIC (prismatic lantern).

TRINOPTIC (three with one light).

BIUNIAL (one lantern above the other).

Triunial (three lanterns one over the other).

Photogenic (light producing).

Pamphengos (intense light).

Pantaphane (having five lights).

Aphengescope (without light).

Megascopos (to see large).

Euphaneron (having four lights).

Polyopticon (viewed by a multitude).

Oxy-hydrogen Lantern (lime light).

Bijou (in small size).

Photinus.

Cyclexicon (comprehensive).

Helioscopic (sun or light).

Metamorphoser (moveable stage).

Cylindrical (circular body).

And numerous others having trade names, which convey no definite meaning as to their construction.

As Seen On

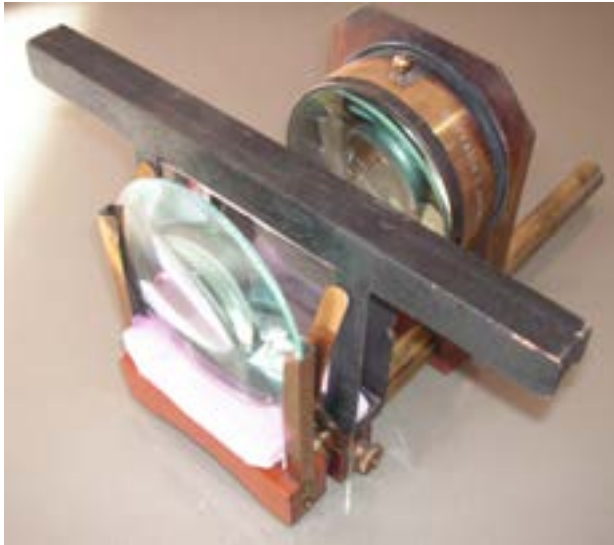


Wow!
Now here are some creative thinking and Pricing



Last month we saw a new way to assemble a magic lantern?

This month! How to list an incomplete lantern



Matthews Portable Lantern, Made in England Late 1800's

Extremely Rare - In working condition - An interesting functional conversation piece
Aim a flood lamp into the back condenser lens - much better than a late 1800's oil lamp or candle!
Place a magic lantern slide up side down into the easy to use included wooden slide holder, adjust



brass slide rails to focus the 2-inch thick solid glass 4" diameter front lens to project a giant clear image onto the wall or screen. I slightly modified using two precision cut pieces of high density pink styrofoam to make sliding images into the holder easier and a second piece to hold the condenser lens up slightly higher to straight line focus with the slide holder and front lens. I highly recommend using a common 12W cool running diffused white light florescent flood lamp (not included), can also project a small "drawing room" size image using your LED flashlight. Slides will never overheat, burn up or crack using a florescent flood, can continuously illuminate the slide compared to oven hot 1900's incandescent bulb projectors. Today the Matthews Portable is the coolest running coolest looking magic lantern projector out there! Will look amazing on your desk. A burn free historic way to view your personal drawing room slide collection.

Compare to Dec 1896 Ad for Matthews

MATTHEWS'
'Little Beauty' Lantern.

A PERFECT Little Lantern just introduced, and specially designed for
Drawing-Room Entertainments, with a minimum of trouble or inconvenience.

Size of Box in which Lantern is packed, and which forms a stand for exhibiting, 8 1/2 by 7 1/4 by 6 1/2; weight 5 lbs.

Fitted with 4 in. condenser, 6 in. focus objective - Acetylene Gas Jet or Incandescent Gas Burner.

Price £3 0 0 Complete.

If an Oil Lamp is required a rather larger box is necessary, and cost increased to £3 3s.

AN IDEAL CHRISTMAS PRESENT.
Sure to please and give pleasure.

LAMBERT MATTHEWS
C/o SCIENTIFIC CAMERA CO.,
97, QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Reference quotes:

"The Matthews Lanterns"

In this series are the portable school Lantern, which is designated No. 1 for teachers.

Now supplied without larger parts to make the smaller versions like the "Matthews Little Beauty for Drawing Room Use"

I believe this simple pair of quality lenses mounted to 12-1/2" brass slide rails with a clip type brass slide holder is a model between the 8-1/2" long little beauty and full size attached light box Matthews portable models.

Ref: September, 1898 - The Photographic Dealer - magazine

Ended: May 02, 2011 19:09:38 PDT

Price: US \$1,899.00

Shipping: \$30.00 Economy Shipping

Item location: Wheaton, IL, United States

More On



Vintage Chas Beseler Magic Lantern Slide Projector

Antique Slide Projector

Ended: Apr 23, 2011

Bid history: 0 bids

Starting bid: US \$1,200.00

This is a true antique Magic Lantern slide projector manufactured by the Charles Beseler Company when they were located in New York City. This lantern is over 100 years old, and is in phenomenal condition with the only damage to the power cord. There is little wear on the bellows and is approx 10 inches long when extended. The bulb is intact and the glass lenses have no chips or scratches. The case is dent and scratch free, and is in excellent mechanical condition. The photos prove for themselves what a rare find this truly is. Simply an outstanding find for any collector!



Asking prices on the high side!
Items have been listed multiple times.



Germany / Original Box

Price: US \$1,500.00

Buy It NowBuy It Now

Late 1800's Magic Lantern / Germany

Rare and Unusual Style

Original Wooden Box with Label

Unusual Zuess figure used for pedestal / Also small god-like head opposite side of Zuess figure at base / Wooden base

Authentic / Superb condition / Box is separating on one side

Might help if the seller checked what slides are selling for!



RARE COMPLETE SET DEWITT WHEELER LANTERN SONG SLIDES

"LOVEY" 1-16 PLUS TITLE SLIDE ~ CHORUS
SLIDE~GREAT COND

Second listing Ending (May 04, 2011 6:48:34 PDT)

Price: US \$1,500.00

Buy It NowBuy It Now

TOTAL OF 18 SLIDES





A Big Thank You to the following:

Robert Blakley **Ron Easterday**
Tom Rall **Kentwood D. Wells**
Artemis Willis

for contributing to this months issue.

Now it's your turn to share!

Do you have a favorite site or a collection of images you would like to share with the rest of the society?

If your answer is yes! Send site information or your images to Larry and they will be shared in the next E-pub newsletter.

E-mail Larry

Group NW to have shows,
displays and slide coloring at
Port Gamble
June 25-26
another chance to
educate about the lantern

